

SENATE BILL 173

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SB 375/03 - FIN

2004 Regular Session
4r1224

By: **Senators Klausmeier, Brochin, Dyson, Kramer, and Stone**
Introduced and read first time: January 23, 2004
Assigned to: Finance

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Commercial Law - Expiration of Gift Certificates and Gift Cards -**
3 **Prohibition**

4 FOR the purpose of prohibiting a gift certificate or gift card from expiring before its
5 use; providing for the construction and application of this Act; and generally
6 relating to the expiration of gift certificates and gift cards.

7 BY adding to
8 Article - Commercial Law
9 Section 14-1319
10 Annotated Code of Maryland
11 (2000 Replacement Volume and 2003 Supplement)

12 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
13 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

14 **Article - Commercial Law**

15 14-1319.

16 A GIFT CERTIFICATE OR GIFT CARD MAY NOT EXPIRE BEFORE ITS USE.

17 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That a presently existing
18 obligation or contract right may not be impaired in any way by this Act.

19 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall be
20 construed to apply only prospectively and may not be applied or interpreted to have
21 any effect on or application to any gift certificate or gift card issued before the
22 effective date of this Act.

23 SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take
24 effect October 1, 2004.